

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY  
OFFICE OF ANIMAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY  
LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT REPORT**

**RE: (LAC 7:XXI.1705-1725.Alternative Livestock-White Tailed Deer and Other Captive Cervids)**

This report is submitted electronically to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Senate and House Committees on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture and Rural Development, in accordance with R.S. 49:968 regarding the intent of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, through the Office of Animal Health and Food Safety, to take the proposed action with regard to the above cited rule.

**I. THE PROPOSED ACTION**

The proposed revisions to LAC 7:XXI.Chapter 17 align needs for disease control and facilitate commerce for the alternative livestock industry. The proposed rules clarify requirements for the commissioning and decommissioning of farm-raised, white-tailed deer pens. The proposed rules further update definitions used in Chapter 17. The proposed rules amend the requirements for approval of a license to the farm and sets forth requirements to be followed in the event of a change of ownership of a farm. The proposed amendments remove the harvesting permit fee and provides that a late fee of \$125 may be assessed if the annual farm raising license fee is not timely paid. The proposed rules modify the obligations of a farm-raising licensee with respect to the identification of farm raised alternative livestock and also require licensees to keep records for 60 months instead of 36 months. The proposed rules allow licensure of an area not less than 250 acres and remove the requirement for a maximum number of acres. The proposed rules remove the requirement of obtaining a harvesting permit prior to harvesting or killing farm-raised alternative livestock.

**II. THE REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION**

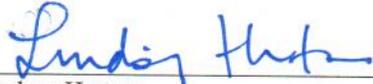
The proposed revisions to LAC 7:XXI.Chapter 17 will remove outdated provisions and maintain consistency with the goals of the department and industry. These revisions will align needs for disease control and facilitate commerce for the alternative livestock industry.

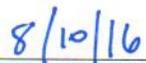
**III. STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

La. R.S. 3:3101 gives the Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry the authority to adopt the proposed rules. The statute provides: "[t]he commissioner of agriculture and forestry, or his designee, shall administer and enforce this Part. The commissioner shall adopt rules and regulations setting forth the requirements for the raising, slaughtering, and sale of imported exotic deer and antelope, elk, farm-raised white tail deer and other exotic cervidae for commercial purposes in this state. All rules and regulations shall be adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act."

**IV. ATTACHMENTS**

- A. The proposed action coded with any new rule or language underscored and with language to be deleted from an existing rule in struck-through type.
- B. A copy of the fiscal and economic impact statement approved by the Legislative Fiscal Office.
- C. A copy of the Notice of Intent filed with the State Register.

  
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Lindsey Hunter  
General Counsel, LDAF

  
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Date of signature